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### An Examination of a Posthumously Published Collection of Charles Dickens's Writings

Lucy Harris


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# An Examination of a Posthumously Published Collection of Charles Dickens's Writings

LUCY HARRIS

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# Origin

## Hurd and Houghton Publishing

The publishing firm was founded on March 1, 1864, by Henry Houghton and Melancthon Hurd.

'Houghton began an apprenticeship with the owner of the Free Press at Burlington, H. Stacy, at the age of thirteen. Houghton worked under Stacy as a compositor until he was nineteen. Once he had graduated from the University of Vermont, Houghton returned to the printing trade.

# Setting a Higher Standard



Houghton poured over types of font, ink, paper, and formatting. Very early on in his career, he decided that he would not stand for lackluster materials and cheaply made final products.

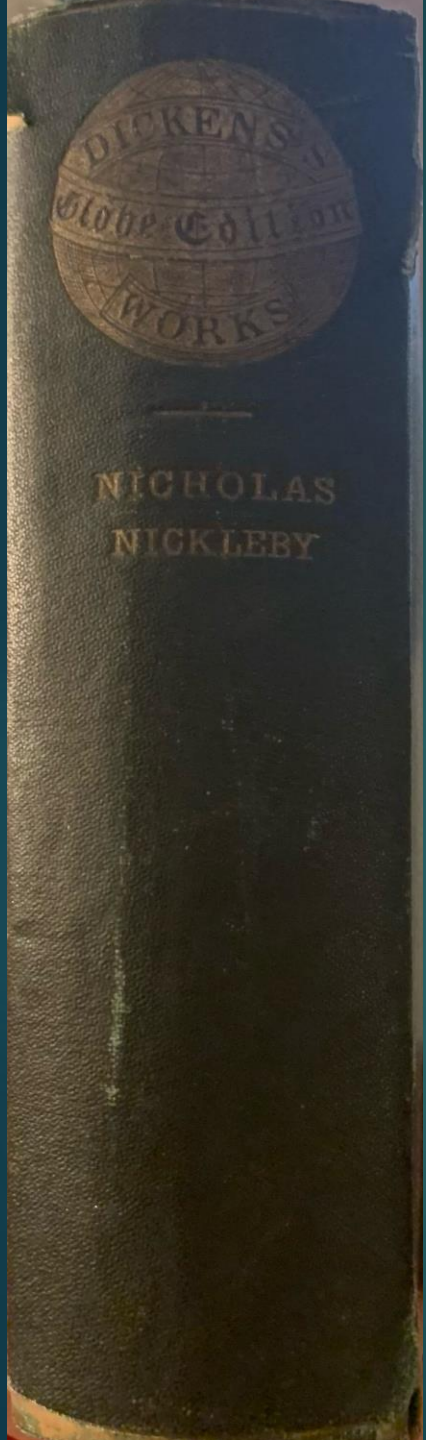
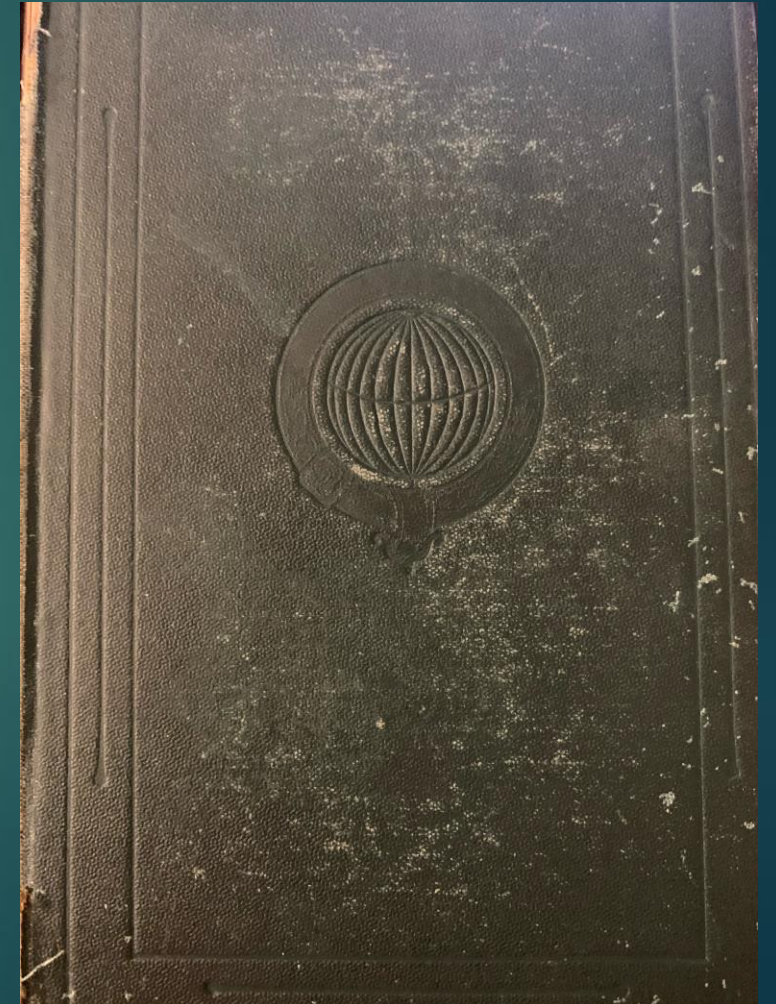
Houghton had a saying that in 1880 became the motto of Cambridge: Riverside Press.

"Do it well or not at all."

# The Collection

## *Nicholas Nickleby*

The Globe series consisted of all of Charles Dickens' novels. They were printed by Hurd and Houghton in 1872. This presentation will examine one of the books from that collection. The green cover of this book is in moderate condition. Throughout the book, the main problems appear to be water damage and spinal integrity. The high standards set by Houghton are evident in the sharp text and clean formatting.







# Illustrations

THE COLLECTION CONTAINS ILLUSTRATIONS FROM THE DESIGNS OF DARLEY AND GILBERT. THE SHARPNESS OF THE IMAGES SUGGESTS THAT THE WOODCUT USED WAS LIKELY EITHER NEW OR EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED. THE QUALITY OF THE IMAGES IS MARRED ONLY BY THE YELLOWING OF THE PAGES AND THE OCCASIONAL SPOT OF WATER DAMAGE.



WORKS  
OF  
CHARLES DICKENS.

Globe Edition.

*Illustrated from Designs by Darley and Gilbert.*

NICHOLAS NICKLEBY.

FOUR VOLUMES IN ONE



NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY HURD AND HOUGHTON.

Cambridge: Riverside Press.

1872.

# Formatting

► The images are crooked slightly only due to photographer error. The order and balance of the page reflect the standards of artistry set by Houghton.

CONTENTS OF VOLUME I.	
	PAGE
Introduces all the rest . . . . .	17
CHAPTER II.	
Of Mr. Ralph Nickleby, and his Establishment, and his Undertakings. And of a great Joint-Stock Company of vast national importance . . . . .	25
CHAPTER III.	
Mr. Ralph Nickleby receives Sad Tidings of his Brother, but bears up nobly against the Intelligence communicated to him. The Reader is informed how he liked Nicholas, who is herein introduced, and how kindly he proposed to make his Fortune at once . . . . .	41
CHAPTER IV.	
Nicholas and his Uncle (to secure the Fortune without loss of time) wait upon Mr. Wackford Squeers, the Yorkshire School-master . . . . .	57
CHAPTER V.	
Nicholas starts for Yorkshire. Of his Leave-taking and his Fellow-Travellers, and what befell them on the Road . . . . .	75
CHAPTER VI.	
In which the Occurrence of the Accident mentioned in the last Chapter, affords an Opportunity to a couple of Gentlemen to tell Stories against each other . . . . .	91
CHAPTER VII.	
Mr. and Mrs. Squeers at Home . . . . .	123
CHAPTER VIII.	
Of the Internal Economy of Dotheboys Hall . . . . .	135

been taken for the uneasy efforts of pain to gain some temporary relief, rather than the freaks of slumber. A few — and these were among the youngest of the children — slept peacefully on, with smiles upon their faces, dreaming perhaps of home; but ever and again a deep and heavy sigh, breaking the stillness of the room, announced that some new sleeper had awakened to the misery of another day; and, as morning took the place of night, the smiles gradually faded away, with the friendly darkness which had given them birth.

Dreams are the bright creatures of poem and legend, who sport on earth in the night season, and melt away in the first beam of the sun, which lights grim care and stern reality on their daily pilgrimage through the world.

Nicholas looked upon the sleepers; at first, with the air of one who gazes upon a scene which, though familiar to him, has lost none of its sorrowful effect in consequence; and, afterwards, with a more intense and searching scrutiny, as a man would, who missed something his eye was accustomed to meet, and had expected to rest upon. He was still occupied in this search, and had half risen from his bed in the eagerness of his quest, when the voice of Squeers was heard, calling from the bottom of the stairs.

"Now then," cried that gentleman, "are you going to sleep all day, up there" —

"You lazy hounds?" added Mrs. Squeers, finishing the sentence, and producing, at the same time, a sharp sound, like that which is occasioned by the lacing of stays.

"We shall be down directly, sir," replied Nicholas.

"Down directly!" said Squeers. "Ah! you had

*Sam. D. A.*

*At Wayne*

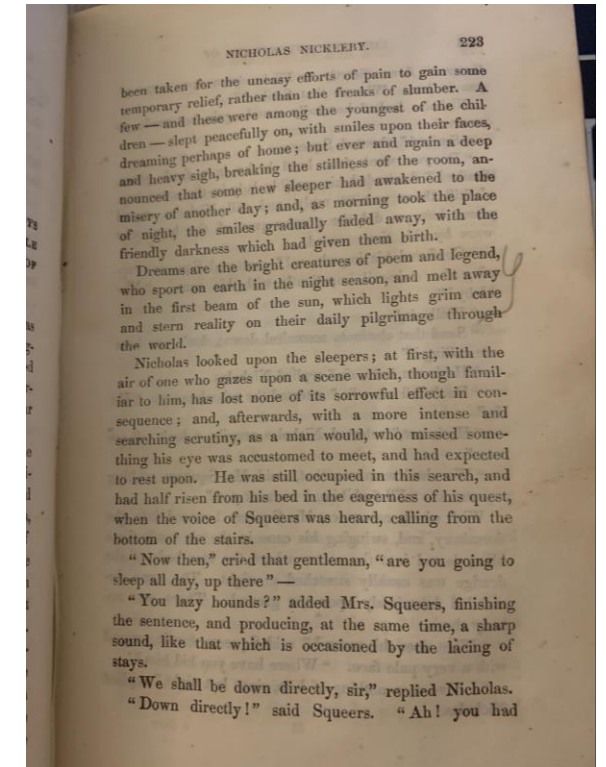
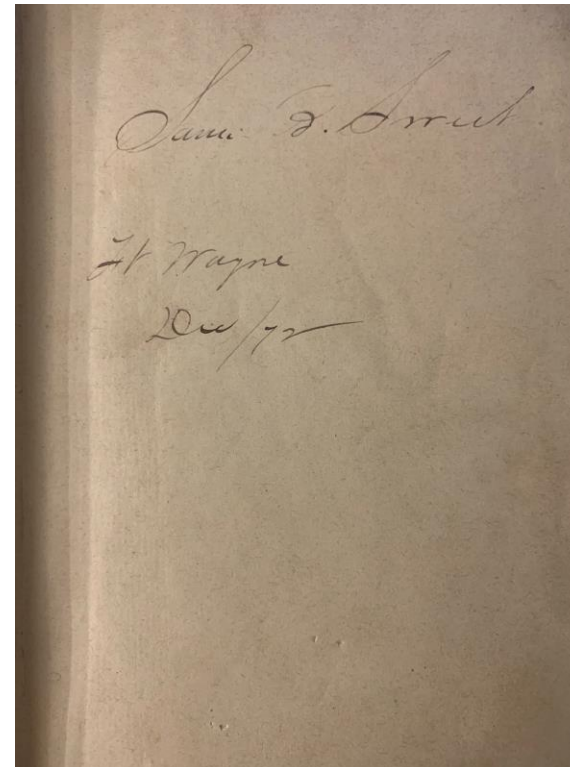
*Dec / 72*

**MARGINALIA LEFT  
BY THE  
ORIGINAL OWNER**



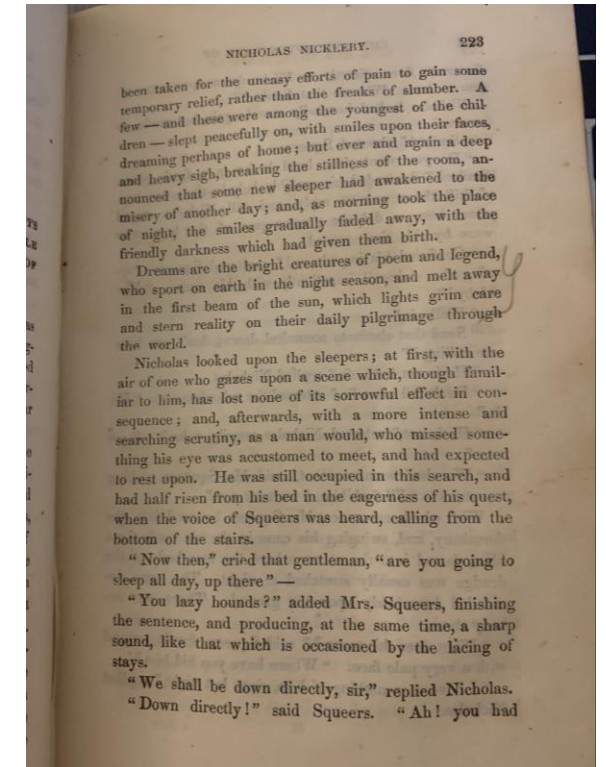
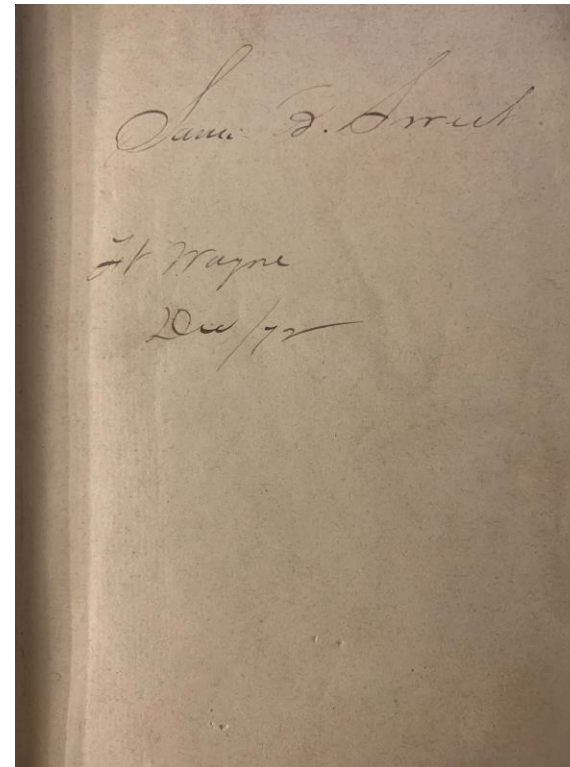
# MARGINALIA LEFT BY THE ORIGINAL OWNER

- ▶ The entirety of this collection has the original owner's name written in ink inside the cover. The photos to the right are from *Nicholas Nickleby*. The original owner's name is Lannes Mcphetridge. In this book, he appears to have used his wife's maiden name, Sweet. The Sweet's family had a higher social standing than the Mcphetridge's. Below that, he's written an abbreviated form of "Fort Wayne", where Lannes is known to have lived.



# MARGINALIA LEFT BY THE ORIGINAL OWNER

- ▶ On page 223 of first volume of Nicholas Nickleby, A paragraph was singled out, this time in pencil, not ink. The passage reads,
  - ▶ "Dreams are the bright creatures of poem and legend, who sport on earth in the night season, and melt away in the first beam of the sun, which lights grim care and stern reality on their daily pilgrimage through the world."



# Work Cited

- ▶ Dickens, Charles. *Nicholas Nickleby*. Globe Edition ed., Hurd and Houghton Cambridge: Riverside Press, 1872.
- ▶ DORNBUSCH, ERIN. "Riverside Press." *Industry in Cambridge*, [cambridgehistory.org/industry/riversidepress.html](http://cambridgehistory.org/industry/riversidepress.html).
- ▶ "Every Family Has a Story." Ancestry® | Genealogy, Family Trees & Family History Records, [www.ancestry.com/?ancid=ln5msiafxu&skwcid=ancestry&gclid=CN2FsdHP7e8CFRCzxQldlB4HOQ&gclsrc=ds&oxid=68273&osch=Paid%2BSearch%2BNon%2BBrand](http://www.ancestry.com/?ancid=ln5msiafxu&skwcid=ancestry&gclid=CN2FsdHP7e8CFRCzxQldlB4HOQ&gclsrc=ds&oxid=68273&osch=Paid%2BSearch%2BNon%2BBrand).
- ▶ "The Riverside Press by James Duncan Phillips." *Cambridge Historical Society*, [cambridgehistory.org/research/the-riverside-press/](http://cambridgehistory.org/research/the-riverside-press/).